APPROVED

Application Serial No.: 10/045,064 Attorney Docket No.: 042846-0313079

Reply and Amendment

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the Application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for processing data in a distributed architecture, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a work request that identifies at least one repository for processing, wherein the at least one identified repository is included in a plurality of repositories;

determining a repository type of the at least one repository;

determining a spider type for gathering information content from the at least one identified repository, wherein the spider type is determined based on the repository type;

gathering information content from the at least one identified repository identified in accordance with the work request;

registering the information content;

assigning the information content to at least one document identifier;

transmitting, the work request regarding at least a portion of the information content to a first work queue;

processing the work request by generating a meta-document representation of the at least a portion of the information content;

transmitting the meta-document representation to a second work queue; and analyzing the meta-document representation.

2. (Cancelled)

- 3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the meta-document representation comprises extensible markup language (XML) format.
- 4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of analyzing the meta-document representation comprises metrics extraction of the meta-document representation.